



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



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To: Interested Persons

From: Tracy J. Egoscue  
Executive Officer  
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date: September 25, 2008

Subject: REQUEST FOR DATA AND INFORMATION ON WATER QUALITY STANDARDS  
AND OTHER BASIN PLANNING ISSUES FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION

The California Water Code §13240 directs the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) to periodically review the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan), while the federal Clean Water Act §303(c)(1) requires states to review and, as appropriate, modify and adopt water quality standards applicable to waters of the U.S.<sup>1,2</sup> In federal terminology, this review of water quality standards is known as the "Triennial Review", consistent with the federal requirement that the review is conducted on a three-year cycle. The Regional Board is commencing a Triennial Review of water quality standards.

As a step in the Triennial Review, the public is asked to provide input on possible additions or revisions to water quality standards. Based on the Regional Board's review of water quality standards and considering input from the public, possible additions and revisions to water quality standards are identified and prioritized at a Regional Board hearing. These prioritized additions and revisions are then developed and implemented through future Basin Plan amendments over the course of the three-year cycle, based upon available resources.

By this notice, the Regional Board hereby requests data, information, documents and other evidence regarding current water quality standards and any suggested revisions or additions to water quality standards applicable to waters in the Los Angeles Region. Water quality standards include both (1) the designated beneficial uses of waters and (2) the water quality objectives set to protect those beneficial uses.

<sup>1</sup> "The Governor of a State or the State water pollution control agency of such State shall from time to time (but at least once each three year period beginning with the date of enactment of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972) hold public hearings for the purpose of reviewing applicable water quality standards and, as appropriate, modifying and adopting standards. Results of such review shall be made available to the Administrator." (Clean Water Act section 303(c)(1))

<sup>2</sup> "Whenever the State revises or adopts a new standard, such revised or new standard shall be submitted to the Administrator. Such revised or new water quality standard shall consist of the designated uses of the navigable waters involved and the water quality criteria for such waters based upon such uses. Such standards shall be such as to protect the public health or welfare, enhance the quality of water and serve the purposes of this Act. Such standards shall be established taking into consideration their use and value for public water supplies, propagation of fish and wildlife, recreational purposes, and also taking into consideration their use and value for navigation." (Clean Water Act section 303(c)(2)(A))

**California Environmental Protection Agency**



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*Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.*



The designated beneficial uses of waters in the Los Angeles Region are identified in Chapter 2 of the Basin Plan, and amendments thereto, and the water quality objectives are identified in Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan, and amendments thereto. The Basin Plan and amendments to the plan are available by calling Sandra Kelley at (213) 576-6619 or on-line at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water\\_issues/programs/basin\\_plan/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/).

All submittals should include, at a minimum, the following information for each comment:

1. **Submitting Organization:** This section should include the name of the organization, entity or person submitting the data, information, documents or evidence for consideration.
2. **Contact Person:** This section should include the name, address, phone number(s), and e-mail address for the contact person that can answer questions about the information provided.
3. **Affected Water Quality Objective, if applicable:** This section should include, if applicable, the water quality objective for which the data, information, or evidence is being submitted. If the data, information, or evidence relates to more than one water quality objective, please list all water quality objectives to which the information pertains.
4. **Affected Waterbody(ies) and Watershed(s):** This section should identify the specific waterbody(ies) and watershed(s) affected by the data, information or evidence, using the nomenclature as described in the Basin Plan for hydrologic units, areas and subareas. Alternatively, a map should be submitted to identify the affected waterbody(ies) and watershed(s).
5. **Affected Beneficial Use, if available:** This section should identify the beneficial use listed in the Basin Plan that is addressed by the data, information or evidence. Alternatively, if the information relates to a beneficial use not currently designated in the Basin Plan, this section should identify the waterbody(ies) to which the beneficial use should apply.
6. **Concise Summary of Data, Information or Evidence:** This section should describe in one or two sentences the essence of the data, information, or evidence.
7. **Concise Summary of Suggested Revisions:** This section should clearly and specifically describe the suggested revisions to beneficial uses and/or water quality objectives based upon the data, information or evidence submitted.
8. **Supporting Data, Information or Evidence:** For each comment, list any existing documents, data, information, and/or specific evidence (with references to particular pages as appropriate) that the Regional Board should consider and provide copies of the documents, data, information, and/or evidence referenced (electronically, where possible).

**All comments and supporting documents, data, information, and evidence must be submitted to the Regional Board by 5:00 PM on November 10, 2008.**

A dedicated e-mail account has been established to receive public comments in response to this solicitation. The e-mail address is [rb4triennial@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:rb4triennial@waterboards.ca.gov). To the extent possible, please use this e-mail address when submitting comments and supporting documents, data, information, and evidence to the Regional Board. If there are questions regarding this request, please contact Renee Purdy at (213) 576-6783 or [rpurdy@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:rpurdy@waterboards.ca.gov) or Dr. Ginachi Amah at (213) 576-6685 or [gamah@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gamah@waterboards.ca.gov).

Public involvement is an important part of the Triennial Review. In addition to this initial solicitation for data and information on water quality standards, there will be other opportunities for public participation, including public workshops and formal public comment periods for any Regional Board actions related to the Triennial Review or to future revisions to water quality standards.

Please share this request for data and information with other interested persons who may not be included on our distribution list. We look forward to your continued participation in our efforts to protect water quality.